Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 08867 111154Z ACTION XMB-04

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2851

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN, NI

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN CREDIT WORTHINESS

- 1. DURING EXPLORATORY DISCUSSION AUGUST 5 WITH EMBOFFS ON NEW AREAS OF ECONOMIC/DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION BETWEEN THE U.S. AND NIGERIA, FMG MINFINANCE PERMANENT SECRETARY BELLO ASKED WHAT WAS NIGERIA'S CREDIT RATING WITH THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK. BELLOW DID NOT PURSUE SUBJECT BEYOND SPECIFIC QUESTION OF NIGERIAN CREDITWORTHINESS. EMBOFF PROMISED TO REQUEST RESPONSE FROM EXIM.
- 2. EMBASSY REALIZES THAT EXIM MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY PROVIDING CLEAR CUT CREDIT RATING BECAUSE OF NIGERIA'S REMAINING ARREARAGES. WITH EXIM. HOWEVER, THE RECENT FULL PAYMENT OF THE NIGERIAN AIRWAYS ARREARAGE AND THE PARTIAL PAYMENT OF THE ABA TEXTILES ARREARAGE COUPLED WITH APPEARENT HIGH LEVEL FMG INTEREST IN AT LEAST EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF NEW EXIM FINANCING PARTS OF MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS INDICATES THAT FMG LIKELY WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO CLEAR UP REMAINING ARREARAGES.
- 3. REQUEST THE EXIM PROVIDE PRIORITY RESPONSE TO BELLO'S QUESTION.

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Message Attributes

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